Amendments to the Specification:

Please replace the paragraph that begins on page 1, line 6 with the following paragraph:

Techniques to ~~provide~~ delivery ~~of~~ multimedia data to the viewing audience ~~is~~ are widely used by interactive multimedia services. A technique for transferring data such that it can be processed as a steady and continuous~~ly~~ stream is called streaming. Streaming technology is becoming increasingly important with the growth of the Internet, because most of the viewing audience (e.g., users) do not have fast enough access to download large multimedia files quickly. In addition to limited bandwidth to transfer a complete file prior to viewing (which might take too long), streaming media players are intended for viewing-only, i.e., after viewing content, it is not stored on the user's computer.

Please replace the paragraph that begins on page 1, line 15 with the following paragraph:

The streaming technology is used by both residential and commercial sectors. Services available to the residential sector include ~~video on demand~~ video-on-demand for movies, news, sports, television programs, home shopping, interactive games, surrogate travel, and a wide variety of educational and information services, to name a few. Services available to the commercial sector include video mail, conference records, multimedia manuals, training, and industry specific uses such as video footage of homes for sale used in the real estate industry and video footage of vacation resorts in the travel industry.

Please replace the paragraph that begins on page 4, line 8 with the following paragraph:

In the following description, terminology is used to discuss certain features of the present invention. For example, a "system" includes hardware equipment and/or software that process information. Examples of a system include, but are not limited or restricted to a computer (e.g., a desktop, a laptop, a hand-held, a server, a workstation, etc.), desktop office equipment (e.g., printer, scanner, a facsimile machine, etc.), a wireless telephone handset, a television set-top box, and the like. The term "information" is defined as one or more of data, address, and/or control. The term "server" or "sites" is used interchangeably and is defined as a computer that stores

applications and information within a network for access by other computers (as opposed to one configured to interact directly with users and peripherals). The terms "edge server" or "edge site" is-are used interchangeably and is-are defined as a server that is physically located close to it users designed to deliver faster, higher quality transmissions, typically in a local commercial Internet Service Provider (ISP) facility. The number of edge servers in a region depends on the number of users in the locale. The term "streaming" is defined as the delivery of a rich media event (audio or video) to an end user in real-time, that is, without the need for prior downloading of the content in its entirety. The user's sensory experience should be much like that of viewing television or listening to the radio.

Please replace the paragraph that begins on page 5, line 23 with the following paragraph:

The viewing systems 120_1 to 120_N include computer systems and are sometimes called nodes in the network. The servers 150_1 to 150_P are computers or devices that allocate resources for the network. There are several types of servers (e.g., file, print, network, and database). The file server is a computer and storage device dedicated to storing files. Any user in the network can store files on the server. A print server is a computer that manages one or more printers, and a network server is a computer that manages network traffic. A database server is a computer system that processes database queries. Servers are often dedicated, meaning that they perform no other tasks besides their server tasks. On multiprocessing operating systems, however, a single computer can execute several programs at once. A server in this case could refer to the program that is managing resources rather than the entire computer. For the purpose of the illustrating the present invention, the server used is defined as an edge server from the plurality of servers 150_1 to 150_P and is used as a tool to deliver or distribute the content to the viewing systems120_1 to 120_N.

Please replace the paragraph that begins on page 6, line 27 with the following paragraph:

The host bridge chipset 121 includes a number of interface circuits to allow the processor 101 access to the system memory 132 and the primary PCI bus 151. The system memory 132 represents one or more mechanisms for storing information. For example, the system memory 132 may include non-volatile or volatile memories. Examples of these memories include flash

memory, read only memory (ROM), or random access memory (RAM). In the computer system 100B, the system memory 132 may contain a program that can implement the distributed media system and other programs or data. In the computer system 100B, the system memory may contain a program that can implement selecting an edge server from the edge servers 150_1 to 150_P. The program in the computer system 100B may be a software program or a firmware program. Of course, the system memory 132 preferably contains additional software (not shown), which is not necessary to understanding the invention.

Please replace the paragraph that begins on page 8, line 24 with the following paragraph:

When the invention is implemented by codes, it is implemented as a program (i.e., applet). This program may be designed to be executed from within another application. This program can be invoked from many different applications. For example, web browsers which is are equipped with Java virtual machine, can interpret this program from web servers. In one embodiment, the program is executed from an applications installed in the computer system. In another embodiment, the program is executed form from an application accessible from a browser.

Please replace the paragraph that begins on page 8, line 31 with the following paragraph:

Figure 2 illustrates a block diagram of the server selector system 134 according to one embodiment of the present invention. The server selector system 143 134 includes a receiver 210, a selector 215, a register 220, a receiver 225, and a transmitter 230.

Please replace the paragraph that begins on page 9, line 1 with the following paragraph:

The receiver 210 receives information from a viewing system from the plurality of viewing systems 120_1 to 120_N and inputs the received information to the register 220. The received information may be information about a server selected by the viewing system from a list of all available servers 150_1 to 150_P in the network. The list obtained by the viewing system may be from printed materials, Web access, or the list is provided to viewing at the setup time of the viewing system. From the list, the viewer selects the servers of its choice and inputs the

information to the receiver 210. The selector 215 selects an edge server based on the selected information from the receiver 210. The register 220 registers the selected servers to a service provider. The information registered may be addresses of the selected servers. The service provider stores the addresses of the selected servers in a storage. The service provider manages the servers (including edge site servers) in the network. It is noted that there may be more than one selected servers.

Please replace the paragraph that begins on page 9, line 14 with the following paragraph:

When multimedia streams from the multimedia service is are requested by the viewing system by the viewer, the service provider avails the addresses of the selected servers. The receiver 225 receives the multimedia data from the service provider and converts the multimedia data into a multimedia stream. The transmitter 230 couples to the receiver to transmit the multimedia streams to the viewing system through the selected servers.

Please replace the paragraph that begins on page 10, line 1 with the following paragraph:

The applet is designed to provide viewers with several alternatives when registering with the service provider. One alternative is that the applet registers with the service provider numerous servers in which the viewer specifies as a first choice, second choice, third choice, etc. Another alternative is that the applet may registers register different servers with different service providers under the direction of the viewer. For example, the viewer may direct the applet to register its first choice of a server with a service provider, and its second of another server with another service provider or the viewer may direct the applet to register its first choice and second within the same service provider. Yet, another alternative is that the applet is to register with a service provider of the viewer's choice and a best-available server is chosen for the viewer when the viewer requests for a content (e.g., multimedia stream).

Please replace the paragraph that begins on page 11, line 19 with the following paragraph:

The selector 330 retrieves the information in the storage 325 and makes the selection of the edge sites that are to be used in the delivering of the multimedia data. The selection of the

edge sites is based on the local information or the edge site deployment or in combination thereof. The selector 330 selects a small number of possible candidate sites to be used in the delivering of the multimedia data.